(4) The Superintendent of Industries till 3rd June 1922. After this period, the Co-operative Department had the exclusive control.

(5) The loan was granted to the Society on their responsibility.

(6) No. He only supervised the working of the Society.

(7) The Society through the Superintendent of Industries.

(8) Not possible to find out.

(9) Vide answer to (8).

(10) To some extent, it is so.

(11) Both.

(12) Yes.

(13) No.

(14) No. Only Rs. 9,406—7—6. Out of Rs. 15,000 advanced.

(15) No; bonds were obtained as per a resolution of the General Body Meeting of the Society.

(16) The documents were drawn up in Malayalam. As to the second part to the question the point has not been thought necessary to be ascertained.

(17) Yes.

(18) No enquiry has been instituted to ascertain the true Tacts.

Transfer of management of the Leper Asylum.

128. **Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) whether there are any proposals to hand over the management, etc., of the Leper Asylum to any private agency;

(b) if so, what are the proposals and who is the agency;

(c) has the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer made any report regarding the same; if so, will a copy be placed on the Table;

(d) names of Government institutions, if any, whose management has been handed over to private agencies?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.— (a) Yes.

(b) The proposal is to hand over the management of the Asylum to a philanthropic body like that of the Medical Branch of the Salvation Army. Also it is being considered whether the Government themselves should manage it.

(c) Yes; no purpose would be served by placing the report on the Table now.

(d) The Pulaya Colony at Chalakkudi and the Nayadi Colony at Kunnamkulam are insatnces in point.

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Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—Does the Government think at least now that it will serve public purpose by placing the papers on the Table since there was a discussion about this yesterday and it was argued that the Chief Medical Officer was favouring the transfer? Do they think that it will serve any public purpose to place the papers on the Table? (*Hear, hear.*)

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—There is less reason to place the papers as all relevant facts regarding the question have been already revealed to the House.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—There were charges that he was favouring the transfer and that he was suppressing some facts.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—That is a novel news to me. I have not heard of any charge of suppressing facts or favouring the transfer. I am hearing it for the first time.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—During the arguments it was said that the Diwan was against the transfer and that the Chief Medical Officer was in favour of it. That was stated here.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—That is an incorrect statement.

Mr. A. B. Salem.—That was a quite correct statement.

President.—During question time, I must say, no reference to the discussion of the adjournment motion should be made. Now, what is the supplementary question? Let me know that and that question will be answered. Again, you see, there will be any discussion in which Members will be called upon to take part. That is the proper stage to refer to that.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—What is the objection to place the papers on the Table?

President.—The answer is given that 'no purpose would be served by placing the report on the Table now'. It may not be a satisfactory answer from your point of view.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—To any question this answer can be given.

President.—That is a comment on the answer.

Appointment of the Acting Chief Engineer.

129. Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.— (a) Will the Government be pleased to state the names of Assistant Engineers in the service who have acted for the Chief Engineer with the dates and the number of times they have acted;

(b) whether the present Acting Chief Engineer is senior to the other Assistant Engineers; if not, why was he appointed acting Chief Engineer overlooking the claims of others?

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